Capstone Projects

All 10 grade Environmental HEMS students were required to complete 2 case studies. The first included research and data analysis on mercury levels in tuna and other marine life. The curriculum concept targeted was the effects of biomagnification in aquatic organisms. Students spent 3 class periods researching and analyzing data. Additionally, they were required to do reflections outside of class time on what they had learned and record them in interactive notebooks. (portfolios)

The second case study dealt with the effects of pollution (oil spills) and eutrophication on marine life in the Gulf of Mexico. They also analyzed the relationship between eutrophication and hypoxia in salt water ecosystems. Their studies spanned 7 class periods and the students were required to reflect in their interactive notebooks as to what they concluded. They were also required to form problem solving teams and offer suggestions as to how they would go about remedying the problems. They were to identify the target groups of who should be responsible for dealing with this major issue facing Florida and the entire Gulf region.

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